

NUMBER 10

EMPLOYEES OF NATIONAL BAPTIST PUBLISHING BOARD SET A PRECEDENT

FOREGO NEW YEAR'S DINNER—WILL DONATE BIBLES TO
SOLDIERS—RINGING RESOLUTIONS PASSED—EXERCISES
HELD IN CHAPEL ON JANUARY 1ST—NO EATABLES.

TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY TRAGEDY

From the Pueblo (Colo.) Chieftain,
Dec. 14.

"The people of the United States will generally approve of the sentences that were imposed on the members of the white regiment who mutinied at Houston, Texas. At the same time the people of the country will demand that a similar punishment be meted to the white men who killed the Negroes in East St. Louis a few weeks before the occurrence at Houston. If anything, the acts of the white people in East St. Louis were far more grave than the acts of the Negroes in Houston. In no manner was either act excusable, and the military authority exercised wise judgment in inflicting a sure and quick punishment on the Negroes. If the military authorities in East St. Louis fail to inflict a similar punishment on the men who were guilty of those murders and crimes, it will only go to show that our government falls down in certain circumstances, and it will only go to increase the feeling that punishment is not fairly meted out.

Uniform Should Have Protection.
From the Buffalo Courier, December 14.

FROM the Buffalo Courier, December 12, 1917.

Uniform Should Have Protection.

From the Buffalo Courier, December 19, 1934.

the mutiny and a riot of Negro soldiers of the Twenty-fourth Infantry at Houston was enacted yesterday when on a government reservation thirteen of these, including five non-commissioned officers, with heads erect, untrembling, singing a hymn and waving the American flag, stood in the place of execution and on a great gallows were hanged until they were dead. As further prescribed by court-martial findings, forty-one officers went to find for life. A few received shorter sentences. Of the sixty-three tried, were acquitted. In the history of the American army is found a parallel of this tragical chapter. The men who have suffered death were guilty of disobedience of orders, and of lawless conduct, and of killing civilians. They were as guilty of murder as are the whiteynchers who go to the gallows to be punished. Justice and military discipline required that the extreme penalty be exacted. Probably with the military court procedure no fault can fairly be found. The judgment cannot be accepted as righteous and the execution as necessary.

Twenty-fourth

Regiment of Negro Infantry of the

regular army has a long general record of efficiency and constancy which

Texans to lynch a Negro because he is black. Georgians to lynch a Jew because of his race. But the uniform of the United States army should be everywhere in the United States have both protection and respect, what he be the race or color or creed of the wearer, and, especially in this time of great war, the whole civil and military population of the nation should, if needful, be exercised to insure such protection and respect.

Mistreatment Not Excusable.
From New York World.

"The hanging of thirteen Negro soldiers, who participated in the battle of Vicksburg, August 22, 1862, the most drastic military punishment in the history of the United States. Forty-one others were sentenced to serve shorter terms.

It was a terrible crime that the government could have been terrible punished, and justly and properly punished. No excuse could be made no leniency shown to the men in the United States uniform who set

and unflinching determination of

demagogically to commit indiscriminate murder. They were soldiers who had been trained to military discipline, and in defiance of officers they organized a mob under their own leaders for a general massacre of the black people and all persons who crossed their path.

"At the same time, the Ho Chi Minh riot and the events growing out of it should be a warning to Southern officials. At the start the Ho Chi Minh police were to blame. By attacking Negro soldiers they were inviting a feeling of bitter resentment. They finally responded by a violent outbreak that cost the lives of many soldiers."

(See page 10.)